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A call for action

Statement of Alderman Cavalier Johnson July 8, 2016

Over the past 30 days, we have watched unspeakable tragedies rip through the United States and the international community. We have seen unfathomable violence in places like Orlando and Istanbul. Now we have seen more bloodshed in the deaths of Alton Sterling and Philando Castile at the hands of police officers, and just in the last day, the attack on and death of numerous Dallas police officers.

We in Milwaukee County have seen our own police-involved incidents, most recently with the shooting of Jay Anderson in Wauwatosa. While we must wait to confirm all of the facts, there is something truly wrong with the way things are and the way they are going.

Too many people are tired, hurt or scared. Too many people are unemployed or don't have access to opportunity. Too many people have had to bury a child because of a gun-related incident.

I am calling all elected officials, both partisan and nonpartisan, to action. We can no longer tweet out condolences and go back to our lives. I have not lost faith in our ability to be the change we want to see in this world.

I look forward to working with my colleagues at City Hall and throughout Milwaukee to increase communication between police officers and the community, and to decrease the level of criminal activity throughout the city.

